

Dear Auburn Planning Commission,

My name is Rebecca Sipe, I am 22 years old and have called Auburn my home forever. A brief history of myself due to its relativity to this letter, my family lives at 3910 Baltimore Rd. and have done so since 1851 just years after the start of the gold rush. I graduated from Placer High School as sixth generation for my family. We maintain a substancial amount of property and have for the last 150 years. I have followed the Baltimore Ravine project from its original proposal to its recent approval. I am in agreement with this project as well as the idea of our ever expanding small town.

However, yes you knew it was coming, I am not in agreement with the alternative access point in question. I am apathetic to the neighboring residence of Herdal Drive. The increase of traffic flow would create a change in daily life. Just as the new developments across town have done just that, changed daily life. What have the locals done, adapted. We love our new shops, restarantes, and office space and don't seem to mind that the Hwy 49 drive across town takes 15 to 20 minutes vs. the

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2011

Previous 5 to 10. We have all adapted. Herdal Drive residence can too adapt. For the sake of these concerned people an alternative route should be considered.

This alternative access point requires the city to take property from my family. Not add to an already existing neighborhood, nor increase traffic flow, but an entire roadway that is invasive on naturally preserved land. This property if taken will cause much more devastation to my family than the extra 5 minutes of a commute home to Herdal Drive. This property is my family's legacy and is defined by the generation who have tended to it. It serves as a home to many traditions, ongoing activities, and life changing memories. For my late grandfather, Richard Sipe, whose spirit lights up the land daily, and only in *his* words do I say, 'Over my dead body,' not so much figuratively, should this land be taken for an ALTERNATIVE route to an already sufficient entry point. I speak only for him for lack of better diction.

So when controversy is on the table and you must choose, how do you decide? How can we compromise? How do you determine a greater good?

Cause change in daily life to the residence and neighbors of Herdal Drive, or intrude onto longstanding loyal locals private property to please the public?

Find a happy medium filled with compromise and cupcakes? Back to the basics and check the facts.

Herdal Drive being the original plan has already constructed a stop light at Auburn Folsom of which we have adapted to. It is the most direct entry point, a more level grade and overall less construction at a lower fee. The alternative through my property is more than double the distance. Bridges would have to be built to even out the grade, clear the gullies, and would still be a hazardous road with possible safety issues. Much more construction and at the price off all that my family lives for. So I

ask of you, **ask not beg**, for my grandfather, rest his soul, would have **told** you, do not take this property, our land, my home away.

There are better options at hand as well as more at stake.

- Yet Another Local in Concern,

Rebecca Sipe

REBECCA SIPE